

IN THE CLAIMS

The following list of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-16. (Canceled)

17. (New) A method of accelerating a plant's response to attack by a plant pathogen, comprising increasing, in at least a part of a plant, a level of luminal binding protein (BiP), wherein said level of BiP is greater than the endogenous level of BiP for said plant in non-stressful conditions, the method further comprising increasing the level of BiP by over-expressing a protein selected from BiP, calreticulin, and/or the ATPase domain of BiP and an ER retention signal.

18. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein BiP is over-expressed by introducing a chimeric gene into the plant, the chimeric gene comprising a strong constitutive promoter, a coding region for BiP and a 3' untranslated region comprising a stop codon.

19. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein BiP is over-expressed by introducing a chimeric gene into the plant, the chimeric gene comprising a strong constitutive promoter, a coding region for calreticulin and a 3' untranslated region comprising a stop codon.

20. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein BiP is over-expressed by introducing a chimeric gene into the plant, the chimeric gene comprising a strong constitutive promoter, a coding region for the ATPase domain of BiP and a coding region for an ER retention signal and a 3' untranslated region comprising a stop codon.

21. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein BiP is over-expressed by modification of at least one signal transduction pathway.